REFERENCE TITLE: CORP; membership; ordinary disability

State of Arizona House of Representatives Forty-eighth Legislature First Regular Session 2007

# **HB 2142**

Introduced by Representatives McClure: Alvarez

## AN ACT

AMENDING SECTION 38-881, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, AS AMENDED BY LAWS 2006, CHAPTER 264, SECTION 13 AND CHAPTER 308, SECTION 1; AMENDING SECTION 38-881, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, AS AMENDED BY LAWS 2006, CHAPTER 264, SECTION 14 AND CHAPTER 308, SECTION 2; AMENDING SECTIONS 38-886.01 AND 38-893, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; RELATING TO THE CORRECTIONS OFFICER RETIREMENT PLAN; PROVIDING FOR CONDITIONAL ENACTMENT.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

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Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

Section 1. Section 38-881, Arizona Revised Statutes, as amended by Laws 2006, chapter 264, section 13 and chapter 308, section 1, is amended to read:

#### 38-881. Definitions

In this article, unless the context otherwise requires:

- 1. "Accidental disability" means a physical or mental condition that the local board finds totally and permanently prevents an employee from performing a reasonable range of duties within the employee's department, was incurred in the performance of the employee's duties and was the result of any of the following:
- (a) Physical contact with inmates, prisoners, parolees or persons on probation.
- (b) Responding to a confrontational situation with inmates, prisoners, parolees or persons on probation.
- (c) A job related motor vehicle accident while on official business for the employee's employer. A job related motor vehicle accident does not include an accident that occurs on the way to or from work. Persons found guilty of violating a personnel rule, a rule established by the employee's employer or a state or federal law in connection with a job related motor vehicle accident do not meet the conditions for accidental disability.
- 2. "Accumulated member contributions" means the sum of all member contributions deducted from a member's salary and paid to the fund, plus member contributions transferred to the fund by another retirement plan covering public employees of this state, plus previously withdrawn accumulated member contributions which are repaid to the fund in accordance with this article, minus any benefits paid to or on behalf of a member.
- 3. "Average monthly salary" means one-thirty-sixth of the aggregate amount of salary that is paid a member by a participating employer during a period of thirty-six consecutive months of service in which the member received the highest salary within the last one hundred twenty months of service. Average monthly salary means the aggregate amount of salary that is paid a member divided by the member's months of service if the member has less than thirty-six months of service. In the computation under this paragraph, a period of nonpaid or partially paid industrial leave shall be considered based on the salary the employee would have received in the employee's job classification if the employee was not on industrial leave.
- 4. "Beneficiary" means an individual who is being paid or who has entitlement to the future payment of a pension on account of a reason other than the individual's membership in the retirement plan.
- 5. "Claimant" means a member, beneficiary or estate that files an application for benefits with the retirement plan.
- 6. "Credited service" means credited service transferred to the retirement plan from another retirement system or plan for public employees

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43 44 of this state, plus those compensated periods of service as a member of the retirement plan for which member contributions are on deposit in the fund.

- 7. "Designated position" means:
- (a) For a county:
- (i) A county detention officer.
- (ii) A nonuniformed employee of a sheriff's department whose primary duties require direct contact with inmates.
- (b) For the state department of corrections and the department of juvenile corrections, only the following specifically designated positions:
  - (i) Food service.
  - (ii) Nursing personnel.
  - (iii) Corrections physician assistant.
- 13 (iv) Therapist.
  - (v) Corrections dental assistant.
  - (vi) Hygienist.
  - (vii) Corrections medical assistant.
  - (viii) Correctional service officer, including assistant deputy warden, deputy warden, warden and superintendent.
    - (ix) State correctional program officer.
    - (x) Parole or community supervision officers.
    - (xi) Investigators.
- 22 (xii) Teachers.
  - (xiii) Institutional maintenance workers.
  - (xiv) Youth corrections officer.
  - (xv) Youth program officer.
  - (xvi) Behavioral health treatment unit managers.
  - (xvii) The director and assistant directors of the department of juvenile corrections and the superintendent of the state educational system for committed youth.
  - (xviii) The director, deputy directors and assistant directors of the state department of corrections.
  - (xix) Other positions designated by the local board of the state department of corrections or the local board of the department of juvenile corrections pursuant to section 38-891, subsection E.
    - (c) For a city or town, a city or town detention officer.
  - (d) For an employer of an eligible group as defined in section 38-842, full-time dispatchers.
  - (e) For the judiciary, probation, surveillance and juvenile detention officers.
  - (f) FOR THE FUND MANAGER OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY PERSONNEL RETIREMENT SYSTEM, ALL FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES, EXCEPT THE ADMINISTRATOR, OF THE FUND MANAGER.
  - 8. "Employee" means a person determined by the local board to be employed by a participating employer in a designated position.

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- 9. "Employer" means an agency or department of this state or a political subdivision of this state which, INCLUDING THE FUND MANAGER, THAT has one or more employees in a designated position.
  - 10. "Fund" means the corrections officer retirement plan fund.
- 11. "Fund manager" means the fund manager of the public safety personnel retirement system.
- 12. "Juvenile detention officer" means a juvenile detention officer responsible for the direct custodial supervision of juveniles who are detained in a county juvenile detention center.
- 13. "Local board" means the retirement board of the employer that consists of persons appointed or elected to administer the plan as it applies to the employer's members in the plan.
- 14. "Member" means any employee who meets all of the following qualifications:
- (a) Who is a full-time paid person employed by a participating employer in a designated position.
- (b) Who is receiving salary for personal services rendered to a participating employer or would be receiving salary except for an authorized leave of absence.
- (c) Whose customary employment is at least forty hours each week and for more than six months in a calendar year.
- 15. "Normal retirement date" means the first day of the calendar month immediately following an employee's completion of twenty years of service or, in the case of a dispatcher, twenty-five years of service, the employee's sixty-second birthday and completion of ten years of service or the month in which the sum of the employee's age and years of credited service equals eighty.
- 16. "ORDINARY DISABILITY" MEANS A PHYSICAL CONDITION THAT THE LOCAL BOARD DETERMINES WILL PREVENT AN EMPLOYEE FROM TOTALLY AND PERMANENTLY PERFORMING A REASONABLE RANGE OF DUTIES WITHIN THE EMPLOYEE'S DEPARTMENT OR A MENTAL CONDITION THAT THE LOCAL BOARD DETERMINES WILL PREVENT AN EMPLOYEE FROM TOTALLY AND PERMANENTLY ENGAGING IN ANY SUBSTANTIAL GAINFUL ACTIVITY.
  - 16. 17. "Participating employer" means:
- (a) An employer which the fund manager has determined to have one or more employees in a designated position.  $\frac{\partial \mathbf{r}}{\partial \mathbf{r}}$
- (b) A county, city or town which has entered into a joinder agreement pursuant to section 38-902.
  - (c) BEGINNING JULY 1, 2007, THE FUND MANAGER.
- $\frac{17.}{18.}$  "Pension" means a series of monthly payments by the retirement plan.
- 18. 19. "Probation or surveillance officer" means an officer appointed pursuant to section 8-203, 12-251 or 12-259 but does not include other personnel, office assistants or support staff.
- $\frac{19}{10}$ . "Retired member" means an individual who is being paid a pension on account of the individual's membership in the retirement plan.

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 $\frac{20}{1}$ . "Retirement" means termination of employment after a member has fulfilled all requirements for a pension.

21. 22. "Retirement plan" or "plan" means the corrections officer retirement plan established by this article.

22. 23. "Salary" means the base salary, shift differential pay and holiday pay paid a member in a designated position for personal services rendered to a participating employer on a regular monthly, semimonthly or biweekly payroll basis. Salary includes amounts that are subject to deferred compensation or tax shelter agreements. Salary does not include payment for any remuneration or reimbursement other than as prescribed by this paragraph. For the purposes of this paragraph, "base salary" means the amount of compensation each member is regularly paid for personal services rendered to an employer before the addition of any extra monies, including overtime pay, shift differential pay, holiday pay, fringe benefit pay and similar extra payments.

23. 24. "Service" means employment rendered to a participating employer as an employee in a designated position. Any absence that is authorized by an employer, including any periods during which the employee is on an employer sponsored long-term disability program, is considered as service if the employee returns or is deemed by the employer to have returned to a designated position within the period of the authorized absence.

24. 25. "Total and permanent disability" means a physical or mental condition that is not an accidental disability, that the local board finds totally and permanently prevents a member from engaging in any gainful employment and that is the direct and proximate result of the member's performance of the member's duty as an employee of a participating employer.

Sec. 2. Section 38-881, Arizona Revised Statutes, as amended by Laws 2006, chapter 264, section 14 and chapter 308, section 2, is amended to read: 38-881. <u>Definitions</u>

In this article, unless the context otherwise requires:

- 1. "Accidental disability" means a physical or mental condition that the local board finds totally and permanently prevents an employee from performing a reasonable range of duties within the employee's department, was incurred in the performance of the employee's duties and was the result of any of the following:
- (a) Physical contact with inmates, prisoners, parolees or persons on probation.
- (b) Responding to a confrontational situation with inmates, prisoners, parolees or persons on probation.
- (c) A job related motor vehicle accident while on official business for the employee's employer. A job related motor vehicle accident does not include an accident that occurs on the way to or from work. Persons found guilty of violating a personnel rule, a rule established by the employee's employer or a state or federal law in connection with a job related motor vehicle accident do not meet the conditions for accidental disability.

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- 2. "Accumulated member contributions" means the sum of all member contributions deducted from a member's salary and paid to the fund, plus member contributions transferred to the fund by another retirement plan covering public employees of this state, plus previously withdrawn accumulated member contributions which are repaid to the fund in accordance with this article, minus any benefits paid to or on behalf of a member.
- 3. "Average monthly salary" means one-thirty-sixth of the aggregate amount of salary that is paid a member by a participating employer during a period of thirty-six consecutive months of service in which the member received the highest salary within the last one hundred twenty months of service. Average monthly salary means the aggregate amount of salary that is paid a member divided by the member's months of service if the member has less than thirty-six months of service. In the computation under this paragraph, a period of nonpaid or partially paid industrial leave shall be considered based on the salary the employee would have received in the employee's job classification if the employee was not on industrial leave.
- 4. "Beneficiary" means an individual who is being paid or who has entitlement to the future payment of a pension on account of a reason other than the individual's membership in the retirement plan.
- 5. "Claimant" means a member, beneficiary or estate that files an application for benefits with the retirement plan.
- 6. "Credited service" means credited service transferred to the retirement plan from another retirement system or plan for public employees of this state, plus those compensated periods of service as a member of the retirement plan for which member contributions are on deposit in the fund.
  - 7. "Designated position" means:
  - (a) For a county:
  - (i) A county detention officer.
- (ii) A nonuniformed employee of a sheriff's department whose primary duties require direct contact with inmates.
- (b) For the state department of corrections and the department of juvenile corrections, only the following specifically designated positions:
  - (i) Food service.
  - (ii) Nursing personnel.
  - (iii) Corrections physician assistant.
  - (iv) Therapist.
  - (v) Corrections dental assistant.
  - (vi) Hygienist.
  - (vii) Corrections medical assistant.
- (viii) Correctional service officer, including assistant deputy warden, deputy warden, warden and superintendent.
  - (ix) State correctional program officer.
  - (x) Parole or community supervision officers.
  - (xi) Investigators.
  - (xii) Teachers.

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- (xiii) Institutional maintenance workers.
- (xiv) Youth corrections officer.
- (xv) Youth program officer.
- (xvi) Behavioral health treatment unit managers.
- (xvii) The director and assistant directors of the department of juvenile corrections and the superintendent of the state educational system for committed youth.
- $(xviii)\$  The director, deputy directors and assistant directors of the state department of corrections.
- (xix) Other positions designated by the local board of the state department of corrections or the local board of the department of juvenile corrections pursuant to section 38–891, subsection E.
  - (c) For a city or town, a city or town detention officer.
- (d) For an employer of an eligible group as defined in section 38-842, full-time dispatchers.
- (e) For the judiciary, probation, surveillance and juvenile detention officers.
- (f) FOR THE FUND MANAGER OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY PERSONNEL RETIREMENT SYSTEM, ALL FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES, EXCEPT THE ADMINISTRATOR, OF THE FUND MANAGER.
- 8. "Employee" means a person determined by the local board to be employed by a participating employer in a designated position.
- 9. "Employer" means an agency or department of this state or a political subdivision of this state which, INCLUDING THE FUND MANAGER, THAT has one or more employees in a designated position.
  - 10. "Fund" means the corrections officer retirement plan fund.
- 11. "Fund manager" means the fund manager of the public safety personnel retirement system.
- 12. "Juvenile detention officer" means a detention officer responsible for the direct custodial supervision of juveniles who are detained in a county juvenile detention center.
- 13. "Local board" means the retirement board of the employer that consists of persons appointed or elected to administer the plan as it applies to the employer's members in the plan.
- 14. "Member" means any employee who meets all of the following qualifications:
- (a) Who is a full-time paid person employed by a participating employer in a designated position.
- (b) Who is receiving salary for personal services rendered to a participating employer or would be receiving salary except for an authorized leave of absence.
- (c) Whose customary employment is at least forty hours each week and for more than six months in a calendar year.
- 15. "Normal retirement date" means the first day of the calendar month immediately following an employee's completion of twenty years of service or,

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in the case of a dispatcher, twenty-five years of service, the employee's sixty-second birthday and completion of ten years of service or the month in which the sum of the employee's age and years of credited service equals eighty.

- 16. "ORDINARY DISABILITY" MEANS A PHYSICAL CONDITION THAT THE LOCAL BOARD DETERMINES WILL PREVENT AN EMPLOYEE FROM TOTALLY AND PERMANENTLY PERFORMING A REASONABLE RANGE OF DUTIES WITHIN THE EMPLOYEE'S DEPARTMENT OR A MENTAL CONDITION THAT THE LOCAL BOARD DETERMINES WILL PREVENT AN EMPLOYEE FROM TOTALLY AND PERMANENTLY ENGAGING IN ANY SUBSTANTIAL GAINFUL ACTIVITY.
  - 16. 17. "Participating employer" means:
- (a) An employer which the fund manager has determined to have one or more employees in a designated position.  $\frac{\partial \mathbf{r}}{\partial \mathbf{r}}$
- (b) A county, city or town which has entered into a joinder agreement pursuant to section 38-902.
  - (c) BEGINNING JULY 1, 2007, THE FUND MANAGER.
- $\frac{17.}{18.}$  "Pension" means a series of monthly payments by the retirement plan.
- $\frac{18.}{19.}$  19. "Probation or surveillance officer" means an officer appointed pursuant to section 8-203, 12-251 or 12-259 but does not include other personnel, office assistants or support staff.
- $\frac{19}{10}$ . "Retired member" means an individual who is being paid a pension on account of the individual's membership in the retirement plan.
- $\frac{20.}{1.}$  "Retirement" means termination of employment after a member has fulfilled all requirements for a pension.
- 21. 22. "Retirement plan" or "plan" means the corrections officer retirement plan established by this article.
- 22. 23. "Salary" means the base salary, overtime pay, shift differential pay and holiday pay paid a member in a designated position for personal services rendered to a participating employer on a regular monthly, semimonthly or biweekly payroll basis, except that for the purposes of this paragraph the amount of overtime included shall not include payments to the member for the sale of compensatory time. Salary includes amounts that are subject to deferred compensation or tax shelter agreements. Salary does not include payment for any remuneration or reimbursement other than as prescribed by this paragraph. For the purposes of this paragraph, "base salary" means the amount of compensation each member is regularly paid for personal services rendered to an employer before the addition of any extra monies, including overtime pay, shift differential pay, holiday pay, payments for the sale of compensatory time, fringe benefit pay and similar extra payments.
- 23. 24. "Service" means employment rendered to a participating employer as an employee in a designated position. Any absence that is authorized by an employer, including any periods during which the employee is on an employer sponsored long-term disability program, is considered as

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service if the employee returns or is deemed by the employer to have returned to a designated position within the period of the authorized absence.

24. 25. "Total and permanent disability" means a physical or mental condition that is not an accidental disability, that the local board finds totally and permanently prevents a member from engaging in any gainful employment and that is the direct and proximate result of the member's performance of the member's duty as an employee of a participating employer.

Sec. 3. Section 38-886.01, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

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38-886.01. Ordinary disability retirement; qualifications; amount of pension; conditions for continued payment of pension
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- A. Full-time dispatchers who are employed by an employer of an eligible group as defined in section 38-842 A MEMBER may retire and receive an ordinary disability pension if the local board finds that all of the following conditions occur:
- 1. An application for disability retirement is filed with the retirement plan or the local board by either the member or the member's participating employer after the disabling incident or within one year after the date the member ceases to be an employee. Timely application for an ordinary disability pension is a prerequisite to receipt of the pension.
- 2. The member undergoes all medical examinations and tests ordered by the local board and releases to the local board all medical reports and records requested by the local board.
- 3. The local board determines that an ordinary disability condition exists that meets the requirements for an ordinary disability.
- 4. THE MEMBER IS NOT PARTICIPATING IN THE REVERSE DEFERRED RETIREMENT OPTION PLAN PURSUANT TO SECTION 38-885.01.
- B. The effective date of an ordinary disability retirement shall not predate the date of disability or the date the member ceases to be an employee.
- C. EXCEPT FOR A FULL-TIME DISPATCHER, THE AMOUNT OF AN ORDINARY DISABILITY PENSION IS EQUAL TO A FRACTION TIMES THE MEMBER'S NORMAL RETIREMENT PENSION THAT IS COMPUTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 38-885, SUBSECTION C AS IF THE MEMBER HAD TWENTY YEARS OF CREDITED SERVICE. THE FRACTION IS THE RESULT OBTAINED BY DIVIDING THE MEMBER'S ACTUAL YEARS OF CREDITED SERVICE, NOT TO EXCEED TWENTY YEARS OF CREDITED SERVICE, BY TWENTY. FOR A FULL-TIME DISPATCHER, the amount of an ordinary disability pension is equal to a fraction times the member's normal retirement pension that is computed pursuant to section 38-885, subsection C as if the member had twenty-five years of credited service. The fraction is the result obtained by dividing the member's actual years of credited service, not to exceed twenty-five years of credited service, by twenty-five.
- D. During the period, if any, between the effective date of ordinary disability retirement and the date the disabled retired member attains

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sixty-two years of age the local board may require a disabled retired member to undergo periodic reevaluation of the continuation of ordinary disability. If the disabled retired member refuses to submit to reevaluation, the local board may suspend payment of the pension. If the refusal continues for one year, the local board may revoke the disabled retired member's rights to the pension. An ordinary disability pension is terminated if the local board finds the retired member no longer meets the requirements for ordinary disability retirement.

- E. A member does not qualify for an ordinary disability pension if the local board determines that the member's disability results from any of the following:
- 1. An injury suffered while engaged in a felonious criminal act or enterprise.
- 2. Service in the armed forces of the United States that entitles the member to a veteran's disability pension.
- 3. A physical or mental condition or injury that existed or occurred before the member's date of membership in the plan.
- F. Local boards shall base a finding of ordinary disability on medical evidence that is obtained by a medical doctor or clinic selected by the local board and shall disregard any other medical evidence or opinions. If the local board retains more than one medical doctor or clinic in connection with the application, SHALL RETAIN A PHYSICIAN OR CLINIC TO EXAMINE A MEMBER WHO APPLIES FOR AN ORDINARY DISABILITY PENSION. THE PHYSICIAN OR CLINIC WHO IS APPOINTED BY THE LOCAL BOARD SHALL OPINE AS TO WHETHER OR NOT THE MEMBER QUALIFIES FOR AN ORDINARY DISABILITY PENSION. WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE LOCAL BOARD, THE PHYSICIAN OR CLINIC MAY REFER THE MEMBER TO A SPECIALIST AND MAY RELY ON THE OPINION OF THAT SPECIALIST IN RENDERING THE PHYSICIAN'S OR CLINIC'S OPINION. THE PHYSICIAN OR CLINIC MAY ALSO CONSIDER ANY MEDICAL EVIDENCE THAT IS PROVIDED BY THE MEMBER OR THE MEMBER'S PHYSICIAN. THE LOCAL BOARD SHALL BASE A FINDING OF ORDINARY DISABILITY SOLELY ON THE OPINION OF ITS APPOINTED PHYSICIAN OR CLINIC. IF THE LOCAL BOARD RETAINS MORE THAN ONE PHYSICIAN OR CLINIC IN CONNECTION WITH ANY APPLICATION, the local board shall resolve any material conflicts presented in the medical evidence that is presented by the medical doctors PHYSICIANS or clinics.
- G. For the purposes of this section, "ordinary disability" means a physical condition that the local board determines will prevent an employee from totally and permanently performing a reasonable range of duties within the employee's department or a mental condition that the local board determines will prevent an employee from totally and permanently engaging in any substantial gainful activity.
  - Sec. 4. Section 38-893, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read: 38-893. Local boards; powers and duties; rules; hearings; administrative review
- A. The administration of the plan and the responsibility for making the provisions of the plan effective for each employer are vested in a local

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board. The state department of corrections, the department of juvenile corrections, each participating county sheriff's department, each participating city or town, each participating employer of full-time dispatchers for eligible groups as defined in section 38-842, and the judiciary AND THE FUND MANAGER shall have a local board. Each local board is constituted as follows:

- 1. For the state departments, two members who are elected by secret ballot by members employed by that department in a designated position and two citizens who are appointed by the governor. The director of each state department shall appoint one member to the local board who is knowledgeable in personnel actions. Each state department local board shall elect a chairman.
- 2. For each participating county, the chairman of the board of supervisors, or the chairman's designee who is approved by the board of supervisors, as chairman, two members who are elected by secret ballot by members employed by the participating county in a designated position and two citizens, one of whom shall be the head of the merit system if it exists for the group of members, who are appointed by the chairman of the board of supervisors with the approval of the board of supervisors.
- 3. For political subdivisions, OTHER THAN THE FUND MANAGER, the mayor or chief elected official or a designee of the mayor or chief elected official approved by the respective governing body as chairman, two members elected by secret ballot by members employed by the appropriate employer and two citizens, one of whom shall be the head of the merit system if it exists for the group of members, appointed by the mayor or chief elected official and with the approval of the city council or governing body of the employer.
- 4. For the judiciary, two members who are elected by secret ballot by members who are employed as a probation, surveillance or juvenile detention officer, a designee of the chief justice of the Arizona supreme court and two citizens, one of whom shall be the head of a human resource department for the group of members, appointed by the chief justice.
- 5. FOR THE FUND MANAGER, THE ADMINISTRATOR HIRED BY THE FUND MANAGER PURSUANT TO SECTION 38-848 OR THE ADMINISTRATOR'S DESIGNEE WHO IS APPROVED BY THE FUND MANAGER, TWO MEMBERS WHO ARE ELECTED BY SECRET BALLOT BY MEMBERS WHO ARE EMPLOYED BY THE FUND MANAGER AND TWO CITIZENS WHO ARE APPOINTED BY THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE FUND MANAGER WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE FUND MANAGER.
- B. The appointments and elections of local board members shall take place with one elective and one appointive board member, as designated by the appointing authority, serving a term ending two years after the date of appointment or election and the other local board members serving a term ending four years after the date of appointment or election. Thereafter, every second year, and as a vacancy occurs, an office shall be filled for a term of four years in the same manner as provided in this section.
- C. Within ten days after the member's appointment or election, each member of a local board shall take an oath of office that, so far as it

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devolves on the member, the member shall diligently and honestly administer the affairs of the local board and shall not knowingly violate or willingly permit to be violated any of the provisions of law applicable to the plan.

- D. Except as limited by subsection E of this section, a local board shall:
- 1. Decide all questions of eligibility and service credits and determine the amount, manner and time of payment of any benefit under the plan.
- 2. Make a determination as to the right of a claimant to a benefit and afford a claimant or the fund manager, or both, a right to a rehearing on the original determination.
- 3. Request and receive from the employers and from members information as is necessary for the proper administration of the plan and action on claims for benefits and forward the information to the fund manager.
- 4. Distribute, in the manner the local board determines to be appropriate, information explaining the plan that is received from the fund manager.
- 5. Furnish the employer, the fund manager and the legislature, on request, with annual reports with respect to the administration of the plan that are reasonable and appropriate.
- 6. Appoint a medical board, which is composed of a designated physician or clinic other than the employer's regular employee or contractor. If required, the local board may employ other physicians to report on special cases. The examining physician or clinic shall report the results of examinations made to the local board, and the secretary of the local board shall preserve the report as a permanent record.
- 7. Sue and be sued to effectuate the duties and responsibilities set forth in this article.
- E. A local board has no power to add to, subtract from, modify or waive any of the terms of the plan, change or add to any benefits provided by the plan or waive or fail to apply any requirement of eligibility for membership or benefits under the plan.
- F. A local board, from time to time, shall establish and adopt rules as it deems necessary or desirable for its administration. All rules and decisions of a local board shall be uniformly and consistently applied to all members in similar circumstances.
- G. An action by a majority vote of the members of a local board that is not inconsistent with the provisions of the plan is final, conclusive and binding on all persons affected by it, unless a timely application for a rehearing or appeal is filed as provided in this article.
- H. A claimant or the fund manager may apply for a rehearing before the local board within the time period prescribed in this subsection. A claimant or the fund manager shall file an application for rehearing in writing with a member of the local board or its secretary within sixty days after:

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- 1. The claimant receives notification of the local board's original action by certified mail, by attending the meeting at which the action is taken or by receiving benefits from the plan pursuant to the local board's original action, whichever occurs first.
- 2. The fund manager receives notification of the local board's original action by certified mail or by receipt of written directions from the local board pursuant to its original action, whichever occurs first.
- I. A hearing before a local board on a matter remanded from the superior court is not subject to a rehearing before the local board.
- J. Decisions of local boards are subject to judicial review pursuant to title 12, chapter 7, article 6.
- K. When making a ruling, determination or calculation, the local board is entitled to rely on information furnished by the employer, the fund manager, independent legal counsel or the actuary for the plan.
- L. Each member of a local board is entitled to one vote. A majority of the appointed and elected members is necessary for a decision by the members of a local board at any meeting of the local board.
- M. The local board shall adopt bylaws as it deems necessary. The local board shall elect a secretary who may, but need not, be a member of the local board. The secretary of the local board shall keep a record and prepare minutes of all meetings, forward the minutes to the fund manager within forty-five days after each meeting and forward all necessary communications to the fund manager.
- N. The employer shall pay the fees of the medical board and of the local board's legal counsel and all other expenses of the local board necessary for the administration of the plan at rates and in amounts as the local board approves.
- O. The local board shall issue directions to the fund manager concerning all benefits that are to be paid from the employer's account pursuant to the provisions of the fund. The local board shall keep on file, in the manner it deems convenient and proper, all reports from the fund manager and the actuary.
- P. The local board and the individual members of the local board are indemnified from the assets of the fund against any liability arising by reason of any act, or failure to act, made in good faith pursuant to the provisions of the plan.

### Sec. 5. <u>Transfer of assets</u>

- A. Notwithstanding any other statute, a full-time employee of the fund manager who becomes eligible for membership in the corrections officer retirement plan pursuant to this act may elect to participate in that plan within the deadlines and pursuant to the terms prescribed for such participation by the fund manager.
- B. Assets under the existing Arizona state retirement system or plan or any retirement plan of a political subdivision of this state that are necessary to equal the actuarial present value of projected benefits

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attributable to the transferring employee, calculated using the actuarial methods and assumptions adopted by the existing Arizona state retirement system or plan or political subdivision plan, shall be transferred from that system or plan to the corrections officer retirement plan within sixty days after notification by the fund manager. That portion of the transferred assets that is attributable to employee contributions, including interest credits, shall be properly allocated to each affected employee of the fund manager and credited to the employee's initial accumulated contributions, pursuant to a schedule that is furnished by the system or plan to the fund manager. The fund manager may elect to pay the cost of the fund manager's full-time employees past service that is on account with one or more public retirement systems or plans of this state or any political subdivision of this state.

### Sec. 6. Retroactivity

Section 38-881, Arizona Revised Statutes, as amended by Laws 2006, chapter 264, section 13 and chapter 308, section 1, section 38-886.01 and section 38-893, Arizona Revised Statutes, as amended by this act, apply, and section 5 of this act is effective, retroactively to from and after June 30, 2007.

## Sec. 7. <u>Conditional enactment</u>

Section 38-881, Arizona Revised Statutes, as amended by Laws 2006, chapter 264, section 14 and chapter 308, section 2 and section 2 of this act, becomes effective on the date prescribed in Laws 2005, chapter 324, section 2 but only on the occurrence of the condition prescribed by Laws 2005, chapter 324, section 2.

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